

APR 13 2005

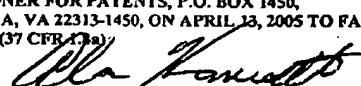
Attorney Docket No. 15866/141

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re App : Kevin B. Weiss : Examiner Douglas C. Butler
Serial No. : 10/714,279 : Art Unit 3683
Filed : November 14, 2003 : Confirmation No. 2037
For : MOTION CONTROL APPARATUS WITH BACKLASH REDUCTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING SENT VIA
FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION, ADDRESSED TO:
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703-872-9306 (37 CFR 1.104)



Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER RULE 1.56

Applicant herein makes available to the Patent and Trademark Office a copy of Form PTO-1449 listing the enclosed references cited in a further enclosed Search Report for corresponding International Appln. No. PCT/US2004/037964. The undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. No fee is required.


This listing should not be construed as representation that a search has been made or that no better art exists. No inference should be made that the documents are in fact material merely because they are referenced herein. Further, by this listing, the applicant is not making any admission regarding the relative dates of the invention and listed disclosures.

The Examiner is requested to consider carefully the complete text of these documents in connection with the examination of the above-identified application in accordance with 37 CFR 1.104(a). It is requested that the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 be included in the "References Cited" portion of any patent issuing from this application (M.P.E.P. 1302.12), and that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the form to evidence consideration of the documents.

Dated: April 13, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin B. Weiss



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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 15866-141PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, Item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/US2004/037964	International filing date (day/month/year) 12/11/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 14/11/2003
Applicant NEXEN GROUP, INC.		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. ☐ With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☐ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☒ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 1

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US2004/037964

Box No. IV Text of the abstract (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

A motion controller (10a) for use with a rod (14) has a backlash reducer (88A) that substantially reduces or eliminates the space created after manufacturing parts with specified tolerance dimensions to substantially reduce or eliminate backlash. The backlash reducer (88A) can be in the form of a holder such as an internal retaining ring (78) and a shim (36), a threaded cap, or the like to accommodate various part size variances due to manufacturing tolerances. Alternately, the end cap (44) of the motion controller (10A) can have an outside thread that mates to an inside thread of the inside surface of a housing (26). The motion controller (10A) has a friction collar (12) to hold the rod (14) under the action of balls (16) and a piston (18). The motion controller (10A) can be fluid powered with a fluid such as air.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US2004/037964

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 F15B15/26

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 F15B F16B F16D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 841 120 A (KABUSHIKI KAISHA KOSMEK) 13 May 1998 (1998-05-13) column 4, line 13 - column 5, line 38 column 7, lines 16-38 column 7, line 58 - column 8, line 9; figures 4,6,7	1-21
X	US 3 203 513 A (ALLEN EARLE F) 31 August 1965 (1965-08-31) column 3, line 67 - column 4, line 75; figures 3,8	1
X	US 6 152 268 A (GOELLNER ET AL) 28 November 2000 (2000-11-28) column 5, lines 16-56	17
A		1,12-14

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

31 March 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

06/04/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US2004/037964

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0841120	A	13-05-1998	JP 3617745 B2	09-02-2005
			JP 10146733 A	02-06-1998
			DE 69731933 D1	20-01-2005
			EP 0841120 A1	13-05-1998
			US 5979267 A	09-11-1999
US 3203513	A	31-08-1965	GB 997815 A	07-07-1965
			GB 997816 A	07-07-1965
			US 3276059 A	04-10-1966
US 6152268	A	28-11-2000	NONE	

Form PTO-1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION Sheet 1 of 1 (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number 15866/141	Application Number 10/714,279
	Applicant Kevin B. Weiss	
	Filing Date November 14, 2003	Group Art Unit 3683

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	3,203,513	8/1965	Allen	188	170	
	5,979,267	11/1999	Yonezawa	74	531	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Papers, Etc.)

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.	

(2-92)

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE